



P. David Polly

Current position: Professor, Department of Geological Sciences, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA (2006 to date); Adjunct Professor, Departments of Biology and Anthropology, Indiana University (2006 to date).

Previous positions: Lecturer, School of Biological Sciences, Queen Mary, University of London, London UK (1997-2006); Research Associate, Department of Palaeontology, The Natural History Museum, London, UK (1996-2006); Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Geological Sciences and Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA (1994-1996).

Education: BA, University of Texas at Austin (1987); PhD, University of California at Berkeley (1993).

Professional service (SVP): Member at Large, SVP Executive Committee (2005-2008); Chair, Information Management Committee (1998-2002); Member, Information Management Committee (1994-2011); Member, Publications Committee (1998-2002); Member, Website and Social Media Committee (2013-date); Editor, *SVP Online* (1999-2003).

Professional service (non-SVP): Executive Editor, *Palaeontologia Electronica* (2003-to date); Editorial Board, *Palaeontologia Electronica* (1996-to date); Associate Editor, *Evolution* (2012-to date); Associate Editor, *Palaeontology* (2002-2012); Associate Editor, *Rocky Mountain Geology* (2013-to date); Associate Editor, *Journal of Paleontology* (2001-2003); Editor, *Paleobios* (1991-1993); Director, Center for Biological Research Collections, Indiana University (2013-to date); Co-chair, *Integrated Climate Change Biology Program (iCCB)*, International Union of Biological Sciences (2012-to date); Member of Council, *Palaeontological Association* (2002-2007); Chair, Advisory Board, Glenn Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University (2013-to date).

Honors: *Joseph T. Gregory Award* for outstanding service to the welfare of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2001); *James Philip Holland Award* for exemplary teaching and service to students, Indiana University (2011); *Drapers' Prize for Excellence in Teaching*, Queen Mary, University of London (2004); *NSF Graduate Fellowship* (1988-1993); *National Merit Scholarship* (1984-1987).

Research interests: Mammalian evolution and paleobiology; phylogenetics and morphometrics; functional morphology; quantitative evolution; links between morphological evolution, phylogenetic diversification, and community sorting over space and time in mammals and reptiles. Published > 75 peer reviewed research papers.

Vertebrate paleontology is a vibrant field of stratigraphers, evolutionary biologists, functional morphologists, developmental biologists, biogeographers, histologists, and fossil enthusiasts whose interests intersect with the rich history of fossil vertebrates. The field has expanded enormously, both in numbers of workers and in the variety of their interests, over the last 25 years. The explosion of data and ideas makes this a truly exciting time to be a vertebrate paleontologist. Despite the strong health of the field, we face challenges from shortfalls in funding, society-wide realignments of the missions of museums and universities, upheavals in the publishing world, and urgent social questions related to biotic change and sustainability. These challenges are potentially transformative, presenting vertebrate paleontology with threats and opportunities both. I have special interests in enhancing the relevance of our field and in maintaining the sustainability of scientific publishing for authors, readers, and SVP. I believe strongly that our science depends on professional organizations like SVP, as well as on institutional organizations like universities and museums. These institutions will continue to sustain our field only so long as we continue to devote our own time and energy to making them work.
